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Imnaha River

Wild and Scenic River Management Plan



MANAGEMENT PLAN

IMNAHA WILD AND SCENIC RIVER

Wallowa-Whitman National Forest
U.S.D.A. Forest Service
Wallowa County, Oregon

MANAGEMENT PLAN

Imnaha Wild and Scenic River

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I. INTRODUCTION

A. Introduction

The Oregon Omnibus Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1988 placed the Imnaha River into the National Wild and Scenic River system to be managed according to the Wild and Scenic Act of 1968. This law required the Forest Service to develop a management plan within three years of designation.

This River Management Plan is accompanied by an Environmental Assessment. The Environmental Assessment gives the public information about the planning process used and documented the environmental analysis completed by the river planning team. The alternative chosen by the Forest Supervisor from the Environmental Assessment is the basis for the River Management Plan. The Forest Supervisor's decision is in the Decision Notice, which accompanies the Environmental Assessment.

The Imnaha River Management Plan will be incorporated into the Forest Plan through an amendment to the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan). Any changes to this river plan will be through the Forest planning process or through an environmental analyses and amendments to the Forest Plan.

One note that needs to be made about terms used in the Act that confuses many people. These are the terms wild, scenic and recreational as they apply to river sections. These terms do not define the river. For example the recreational section does not mean that it is for recreation. These are terms that congress used to define the amount of development along the river. The following are the development levels associated with each term (Sec. 2 (b) of the Act):

Wild river - Those rivers or sections of rivers that are free of impoundments and generally inaccessible except by trail, with watersheds and shorelines essentially primitive and waters unpolluted. These represent vestiges of primitive America.

Scenic river - Those rivers or sections of rivers that are free of impoundments, with shorelines or watersheds still largely primitive and shorelines largely undeveloped, but accessible in places by roads.

Recreational river - Those rivers or sections of rivers that are readily accessible by road or railroad, that may have some development along their shorelines, and that may have undergone some impoundment or diversion in the past.

B. Relationship With Other Plans

Within the river corridor, there are three other special management areas, each with their own specific management objectives. These include the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area (HCNRA), Eagle Cap Wilderness, and the Hells Canyon Scenic Byway.

In most cases, the management of these different designations are compatible. The goal is to manage for the intent of each area while protecting the others. However, there are times that this may not be possible. In this case, according to Section 10 (b) and (c) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, the more restrictive provision shall apply. This has been carried into the management plan. If conflicts arise between the other management plans and this plan, the more restrictive shall apply.

Within the river corridor, there are threatened and endangered plants and animals. These species fall under the Endangered Species Act. The intent is to manage according to both Acts, not one taking priority over the other. If conflicts arise that cannot be resolved, then they should be resolved by the more restrictive provisions or more restrictive management plan if possible. If the conflict is resolved in favor of the Endangered Species Act because of the wording of that Act, then the activity should be modified to best meet the needs of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

Private property, both inside and outside the National Forest boundary, is involved in this river corridor. The Forest Service has no regulatory authority over private lands. Private property rights need to be address in any planned activity.

C. Outstandingly Remarkable Values

The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act requires that a river be free flowing and possess one or more "outstandingly remarkable values." When the Imnaha River was designated Wild and Scenic in 1988, the Congressional Records indicated that scenic, fisheries, and wildlife values qualified as outstandingly remarkable. Through the resource assessment process (a site-specific assessment of the resource values on the river and part of the Region 6 river planning process), four additional OR values were identified. These are recreation, historic/prehistoric, traditional use/lifestyle adaptation, and vegetation/botanical. All of the OR values are identified in detail in the Resource Assessment, completed in April of 1992 (Appendix A).

The following is a summary of the Outstandingly Remarkable values:

Scenic - Is dominated by a diverse landscape creating high quality natural scenery. Manmade developments have a primitive, historic, or rustic western setting. The private lands are in a pastoral setting of historic and/or western culture.

Recreation - Is a combination of recreational activities including hunting, fishing, sightseeing, horseback riding, hiking, snowmobiling, and camping.

Dispersed camping and developed camping are the dominant use along the river. Developed camping in the existing campgrounds is also a major recreational use. Other recreation activities include picnicking, mushroom picking, photography, skiing, and other uses.

Some recreational activities, although they may exist in the river corridor, were not determined to be part of the OR value. These include boating, rafting, recreational gold dredging, and recreational experiences associated with modern camping facilities.

Much of the river is on private property including the bed and banks. In most cases, the recreational opportunities on private land are limited to sightseeing and photography from the County Road. The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act does not change private land rights.

Fisheries - Includes the population and habitat of the threatened spring and fall Snake River chinook salmon, and sensitive steelhead and bull trout.

Wildlife - Includes the wildlife population and habitat in the Imnaha River corridor which includes Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep. It also includes a variety of other species including, but not limited to, mule deer, elk, and black bear.

Proposed, Endangered, Threatened, and Sensitive (PETS) species of animals within the corridor are an important part of the OR value. These include, but are not limited to, the Townsend's Big-Eared Bat, Peregrine Falcon, and Bald Eagle.

The ability to view a wide variety of wildlife in the corridor was determined to be part of this OR value.

Historic/Prehistoric - Includes Nez Perce historic and prehistoric sites as well as Euro-American historic sites.

Vegetation/Botanical - Includes numerous Proposed, Endangered, Threatened, and Sensitive (PETS) species of plants. These include, but are not limited to, Wallowa primrose, fraternal paintbrush, Oregon bolandra, Macfarlane's four-o'clock, Geyer's onion, and hazel's leptodactylon.

Also included is the plant and ecosystem diversity that can be found in the Imnaha River corridor. The river corridor starts at 8,000 feet and descends to 950 feet. Most ecosystems found on the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest can be identified in this river corridor.

Traditional Value/Lifestyle Adaptation - Includes the lifestyle that has evolved and is representative of the early Euro-American settlers within the Imnaha River corridor.

This lifestyle is dominated by a ranching/farming tradition that has evolved over time. This lifestyle, as it relates to the river, is an extension of how the river corridor has been used for years, including the use by the Nez Perce Tribe.

D. How To Use This Plan

This plan is divided into three sections: Standards and Guidelines for Federal Lands, Standards and Guidelines for Private Lands, and Implementation.

The Chapter on Standards and Guidelines for Federal Lands deals with the management practices that will be used on Federal lands. It also includes actions that will or will not be taken by the Forest Service in the management of the river corridor.

The Chapter on Standards and Guidelines for Private Lands deals with how private landowners can work with their own lands to protect river values. It also set up a process for the interaction between private landowners and the Forest Service. These guidelines were coordinated with the HCNRA to provide consistency.

The Chapter on Implementation describes specific action that the Forest Service will take as a result of this management plan and describes the monitoring process.

II. STANDARD AND GUIDELINES FOR FEDERAL LANDS

Because this area is managed to meet the intent of several Congressional Act's, these standards and guidelines must be considered in conjunction with the standards and guidelines of other areas involved. These include both the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area (HCNRA) and the Eagle Cap Wilderness. These standards and guidelines should be consulted before going to the general forest plan standards and guidelines. The following is a guide to other management areas (MA) that should be consulted before implementing any projects.

Wild Section	Inside Wilderness	See also MA 4	(Wilderness)
	Outside Wilderness	See also MA 11	(DR/TM)
Recreation Section	South of Palette Ranch	See also MA 10	(Forage)
		See also MA 11	(DR/TM)
		See also MA 17	(Transmission facilities)
		See also MA 16	(Admin. Sites)
	North of Palette Ranch	See also MA 10	(Forage)
		See also MA 12	(RNA)
See also MA 17		Transmission facilities)	
See also MA 16		(Admin. Sites)	
Scenic Segment	Entire segment	See also MA 8	(Snake River)
		See also MA 9	(DR/NV)
		See also MA 10	(Forage)

In case of conflict between the standards and guidelines of these management areas or conflicts between the provisions of the Congressional Acts (Wilderness Act, Hells Canyon National Recreation Area Act, or Wild and Scenic Rivers Act), the more restrictive standard and guideline or provision shall apply.

Because there are threatened and endangered species within the river corridor, the Endangered Species Act is also applicable. This Act is to be coordinated with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to achieve the objectives of both Acts. In any case, any activity that must take place under the Endangered Species Act should be modified, if needed, to best meet the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

The following are the standards and guidelines for the management of the Imnaha Wild and Scenic River. These apply to Federal lands or identify actions that need to take place off of Federal lands to facilitate the management of the river corridor. The Desired Future Conditions are applicable for the river corridor.

These standards and guidelines follow the same order as shown in Chapter 4 of the Forest Plan. For each resource that is also an Outstandingly Remarkable Value, a description of desired future condition (DFC) is given.

1. **Conflict Resolution.** If conflicts arise between OR values which cannot be resolved within the direction of the Act or management plan, then they shall be resolved on a case-by-case basis by the appropriate line officer giving concern for managing the OR values on an equal basis.

During the development of the alternative for this management plan, there was a conscious decision not to emphasis one OR value over another but to give management the flexibility to manage given the concerns and issues of the times.

2. **Watershed.** Construction of new water impoundments, diversions, straightening, rip-rapping, and other modifications of the Imnaha River will generally not be allowed. Under Section 7(a) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, the agency must determine whether the proposed water resources project has a "direct and adverse effect on the values for which such river was established." The Regional guidelines (Section 7a analysis) will be completed for any project affecting the flow, bed, or banks of the river. The outcome of the analysis should clearly demonstrate a compelling need for the project and consistency with achieving the DFC's if it is to continue.

Examples of projects that would likely be subject to Section 7a analysis include, but are not limited to:

1. Log removal for recreation user safety;
 2. Fisheries habitat and watershed enhancement projects;
 3. Bridge and other roadway construction/reconstruction projects;
 4. Bank stabilization projects;
 5. Recreation facilities such as boat ramps, fishing piers, etc.;
 6. Activities that require 404 permit from the Corps of Engineers.
3. Any proposed activity affecting free flow in which there is another Federal agency "assisting by loan, grant, license, or otherwise ...," the responsible official is the Regional Forester (reference 2354.04e).
 4. The water quality of the Imnaha River is above State standards. The standard for which water quality will be measured is the water quality at the time of the Act (1988) or best estimate. See "Management Activities" in Chapter IV for additional information.
 5. No human caused action may be undertaken which will result in a reduction of existing water quality or in not meeting State of Oregon water quality standards.

Toilet facilities shall be provided where people are concentrated. Where toilets are not provided, the "cat hole" or other appropriate methods for all human waste disposal will be encouraged at least 200 feet from the river. In any case, human body waste shall not be deposited within the high water lines of the river.

6. **Wildlife. (Outstandingly Remarkable Value)**

Desired Future Condition - The desired future condition for this resource is an increase and then a stable population of bighorn sheep within the lower Imnaha River corridor. Over time, quality habitat is maintained or increased for all wildlife. No reduction in wildlife PETS species habitat or population.

7. Manage existing and proposed populations of wild bighorn sheep within the river corridor according to the Forest Plan.
8. **Forest Management.** Within the Wild section of the river, outside of the Wilderness, there will be no scheduled timber harvest. Trees may be removed under emergency conditions, such as for insect or disease control, fire, natural catastrophe, or public safety. Under these conditions, the removal would still have to protect and enhance the Outstandingly Remarkable Values.
9. Within the Recreational section of the river, salvage and other forest management practices can occur. This would be a non-scheduled activity and only in a manner that protects and enhances the Outstandingly Remarkable Values. See also Management Areas 10 and 11 for additional standards.

10. Within the Scenic section of the river, there is no suitable forested land.
11. Forest management activities will be designed to protect and enhance the Outstandingly Remarkable values, water quality, and free flow.
12. **Range.** Permit domestic livestock grazing to continue if it is: consistent with the objectives of the individual river segments, protects and enhances the Outstandingly Remarkable values, and protects water quality. (See item 1. Watershed for additional information concerning water quality.)

Forest Plan Standards and Guidelines for range management are acceptable within the river corridor. Any adverse impacts to OR values, water quality, or free flow, even though within Forest Plan Standard and Guidelines, will have immediate action taken to correct impact.
13. If livestock grazing is inconsistent with the objectives of the individual river segments, not protecting and enhancing the Outstandingly Remarkable values, or not protecting water quality, modify grazing practices to meet these requirements.
14. Make range management structures visually compatible with the Forest Service visual classifications of retention or preservation.
15. **Landownership.** Easement acquisition through condemnation is only to be used for the protection of OR values and not for the enhancement of OR values. The goal is to work with private landowners in river management. The objective is for private lands and rights to remain private unless purchased through a willing seller.
16. Retain in Federal ownership all Federal land unless for the protection and enhancement of the OR values, water quality, or free flow.
17. Consider acquisition of easements upon those lands where private land practices threaten the rivers free flow, water quality, or OR values.
18. Easements for the enhancement of the OR values and water quality will only be from willing sellers.
19. Acquisition of land in fee title is permitted only from a willing seller.
20. Nothing in any alternative precludes the Forest Service from actively pursuing easements when an OR value is about to be or is being threatened or damaged.
21. The use of easements for river management is different than for the management of the NRA. Nothing in this management plan precludes the NRA from pursuing easements in the river corridor for the purpose of managing the NRA. However, any easement within the river corridor for the purpose of managing the HCNRA shall protect OR values, water quality, and free flow.
22. Easements from unwilling sellers are to be used as a last resort in implementing the Wild and Scenic Act and managing the Imnaha Wild and Scenic River.
23. In providing easements, strive to allow the land to continue as an active working ranch or farm including residences.
24. Forest Service will post the boundaries of all public lands and easements that accesses the river so the public will have an understanding of where the public land is and what segments of the

river are available for public use. This may be signed as public access rather than actual land lines. This will be done to minimize private land trespass and to assist the public in identifying public lands.

25. **Minerals.** The Imnaha Wild and Scenic River corridor is withdrawn from mineral entry. There are no existing valid claims within the river corridor.
26. **Insects and Diseases.** Control forest pest in a manner compatible with the intent of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area Act while protecting and enhancing the outstandingly remarkable values.
27. **Fire.** In order to preserve water quality, fire retardant and heavy equipment will not normally be used in the proximity of wild rivers. Fire suppression activities along Wild and Scenic river segments should protect the primitive nature of the area when possible.
28. Prescribed fire from planned and unplanned ignitions may be used, consistent with the management direction for adjacent management areas.
29. Prescribed fire from planned and unplanned ignition may be used for slash disposal, site preparation, and habitat modification to meet recreation or other resource objectives as long as the river-related values are protected.
30. The minimum acceptable suppression response to wildfires will be "confine" at FIL's 1-2-3, and "contain" for FIL 4 and greater.
31. **Transportation.** Within the Wild section of the river, no road construction is permitted. Any existing roads should be reclaimed or converted to trails. Any new trails should be discouraged unless needed to protect and enhance the outstandingly remarkable values.
32. Within the Scenic section of the river, no road construction is permitted. Off-trail vehicle use and motorized 3- or 4-wheeled vehicles use will be prohibited. Any new trails should be discouraged unless needed to protect and enhance the OR values.
33. Within the Recreational section of the river, new road construction should be discouraged unless needed to protect or enhance the outstandingly remarkable values. Off-road vehicle use may be allowed so long as the OR values are protected and enhanced.
34. Forest Road 3960 will be managed to protect and enhance the OR values.
35. Forest Road 3955 will be upgraded to improve the safety by widening corners, narrow spots, and reducing dust.
36. **Recreation. (Outstandingly Remarkable Value)**

Desired Future Condition: The Wild segment of the river is a Semiprimitive/nonmotorized ROS starting at Indian Crossing moving toward and into a primitive WRS as you enter the Eagle Cap Wilderness. The Scenic segment of the river is a Semiprimitive/motorized ROS with limited motorized use. Depending on the conflicts between user groups this could be changed to a Semiprimitive/nonmotorized (See Item 28). The Recreational segment is a combination of Rural ROS on private land and Roaded Natural ROS on the public lands. In general, the Roaded Natural ranges from a more developed setting from Palette Ranch to approximately Ollokot Campground and then turns to a less developed and more rustic end of Roaded Natural as you leave the vicinity of Ollokot Campground and approach Indian Crossing. In general, the overall condition

of the Imnaha River is one of a continuum as you go from a Rural setting to the more developed end of Roded Natural to the less developed end (more rustic) Roded Natural, and then to Semiprimitive and ending in primitive (WRS). The changes should be gradual and not abrupt.

The Region has developed an ROS guide for river management. This guide should be used in conjunction with the Forest Service ROS direction.

37. Provide a Semiprimitive/motorized setting for the Scenic segment of the river for one year. During the one year period, uses and conflicts will be monitored. After analysis of the monitoring results, determine if motorized use is acceptable. Motorized vehicles will be restricted to the trail. Three- and four-wheeled motorized vehicles will be prohibited. If motorized equipment is prohibited at a later date, the ROS will be changed to Semiprimitive/nonmotorized.
38. Plan and develop an adequate recreation facility to manage the recreation use and to protect the site at or near Cow Creek .
39. Manage for a Roded Natural ROS from Fence Creek to Cow Creek along the Recreational segment of the river. This should be managed as close to the rustic and less developed end of Roded Natural as possible.
40. Manage for a Rural or Roded Natural ROS from Fence Creek to the Palette Ranch.
41. Manage for a Roded Natural ROS from the Palette Ranch to Indian Crossing. From the Palette Ranch to the vicinity of Ollocot Campground, manage for the more developed end of Roded Natural while maintaining a rustic appearance. From Ollocot Campground to Indian Crossing manage for a less developed Roded Natural setting, emphasizing a rustic appearance.
42. Manage for approximately an equal amount of dispersed and developed camping. This would be on a capacity basis.
43. After the development of a new modern campground in the upper Imnaha River corridor (identified in the CMP, page 26), no additional campgrounds would be developed in the upper Imnaha River corridor. Existing campgrounds may be improved or slightly enlarged. Other new recreation facilities may be developed as needed after being identified through the NEPA process.

Other campgrounds in the lower Imnaha River corridor may be developed as needed.
44. Manage for a Semiprimitive/nonmotorized ROS from Indian Crossing to the Blue Hole.
45. Manage for a primitive WRS from the Blue Hole to the origin of the South Fork.
46. Indian Crossing Campground is adjacent to the Wild segment of the river. Any proposed activities or developments at Indian Crossing need to protect the river-related resource values of the adjacent Wild river segment.
47. Access to the river, for river management, is adequate at this time. Additional access for river management, private or public lands, will not be pursued. This would not apply to landowners willing to give access or sell easements.
48. **Landscape Management. (Scenic Outstandingly Remarkable Value)**

Desired Future Condition: There are two Visual Quality Objectives within the river corridor. The Wild section is Preservation and the Recreational and Scenic sections are Retention. The desired

future condition is a natural appearing landscape with a minimum amount of non-conforming visual impacts. As riparian vegetation and vegetative screening of altered areas increases, the scenic condition of the corridor should improve. New developments will be designed to blend with the natural character of the landscape and will conform to the rustic nature of the area. The Wild section should remain unchanged with native and natural vegetation. The private land would retain its pastoral setting of western farms and ranches.

49. Manage the trail along the Scenic segment of the river as a Sensitivity Level 1 trail.
50. Utilize the Hell Canyon National Recreation Area Visual Resource Inventory & Imnaha Valley Study as a guide to managing the scenic resource.

51. **Fisherles. (Outstandingly Remarkable Value)**

Desired Future Condition: Stable streambanks, excellent water quality, habitat complexity, natural levels of woody debris delivery, and increased woody debris amounts from Neil Creek to Evergreen Campground. The population of anadromous fish, bull trout, and other native fish will be at or near the carrying capacity of the habitat potential.

Many constituents of the desired future condition are present in the Imnaha River today. Maintaining these conditions will be the major task required to achieve the desired future condition, and allow the river to continue to function as the valuable resource that it is.

52. A management zone of 200 feet on Class I and II streams, 100 feet on Class III, and 50 feet on Class IV streams will be in place. This management zone is for the protection of fish habitat and water quality. All ground disturbing or vegetation disturbing activities within the zone will be analyzed and designed to have no adverse impact on fish habitat or water quality.

Existing developments are acceptable, however, any maintenance or reconstruction of existing developments would apply this standard and guideline.

53. **Cultural Resources. (Historic/Prehistoric Outstandingly Remarkable Value)**

Desired Future Condition: Historic/Prehistoric sites are protected until management actions can be determined. These actions may include data collection, mitigation, interpretation, education, or preservation. Selected sites would be used for public education and interpretation. All activities would be in coordination and cooperation with the Nez Perce Tribe.

54. Direction for management of this resource can be found in the Cultural Resource Inventory Plan, Cultural Resource Protection Plan, and Hells Canyon Recreation Interpretive Plan as well as direction in the CMP.

55. **Vegetation. (Vegetation/Botanical Outstandingly Remarkable Value)**

Desired Future Condition: The desired future condition of the botanical resource will emphasize the maintenance and enhancement of the numerous plant species and communities which are found there. All species which currently exist will continue to thrive and the occurrence of non-native plants which compete with and displace native species will be reduced or eliminated. Special attention will be placed on those plant species or communities considered to be endangered, threatened, sensitive or otherwise unique. In some instances, management activities which are not compatible with these goals may be modified or curtailed.

56. See Forest Wide Standards and Guidelines for Diversity and Threatened and Endangered species as well as the Hells Canyon Comprehensive Management Plan (CMP).
57. **Public Affairs.** Identify private lands on all brochures and maps which identify the Imnaha Wild and Scenic River.
58. Explain, on all maps, brochures, and literature that the designation of wild and scenic river does not change private land rights. The bed and banks of the river belong to the private landowner.
59. Educate Public Affairs Officer, Receptionist, or others who give out information to the media or public about the relationship between the private lands and the Imnaha Wild and Scenic River designation. The Forest Service will actively pursue explaining this relationship in any discussion involving the Imnaha River.
60. Explain to the public through literature, word of mouth, maps, etc. the hazards that can be found on the Imnaha River. These hazards include, but are not limited to, rattlesnakes, cactus, poison oak, and hot conditions that create extreme fire danger.
61. Work with County and State governments to accurately reflect the relationship between the Imnaha Wild and Scenic designation and private lands in any literature they produce.
62. Provide an information stop near the junction of Highway 350 and the County Road leading to Forest Road 39 or other appropriate location that:
 - Directs recreationist to use Forest Road 39 to access the upper Imnaha River.
 - Indicates if the Hat Point Road, Dug Bar Road, Upper Imnaha Road, or Forest Road 39 are open, closed, or if delays can be expected.
 - Accurately reflect the distance to gas or other services.
 - Accurately reflect the fire danger level.
63. The Forest Service will meet annually with the residents of the Imnaha River. These meetings may be kept small and held at different locations along the river to provide for a good interchange of information. The objective of these meetings for the Forest Service is to share how implementation of the management plan is proceeding and for the public to share how they perceive implementation. The goal is to maintain a dialog to improve the interactions between public and private lands.
64. Any activity initiated by the government including contract work that involves private land, the Forest Service will notify the landowners involved. This includes, but is not limited to, such things as land surveys, stream surveys, photography, or other similar activities. As is practicable, notification should be prior to the decision to do the work or prior to starting the work.

III. STANDARD AND GUIDES FOR PRIVATE LANDS

The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, Congressional Records, and Regional direction is very clear on the relationship between private landowners and management of the river corridor. Section 11(b)(1) of the Act states that "... Federal agency, shall assist, advise, and cooperate with States, or their political subdivisions, landowners, private organizations, or individuals to plan, protect, and manage river resources. Such assistance, advice, and cooperation may be through written agreements or otherwise."

Approximately 42 percent (10,060 acres) of the river corridor is private land. The majority of the private land is in the Recreation section of the river.

The goal of the management plan is to work cooperatively with, to advise, and/or to assist private landowner in protecting and enhancing river related values. Even though the Forest Service was given the administrative authority, the approach towards private landowners should be as a good neighbor, with concern for their interest as well as the river. The Forest Service needs to extend a helpful hand while respecting individual rights. The only way to do this is to get to know your neighbors as individuals, be interested in their concerns, and be open and honest in river management activities.

The following is the management direction concerning private lands. This is to be used as a guide to form an understanding between landowners and the Forest Service. The guidelines are not laws, ordinances, or regulations that can be enforced by citations. They should provide a basis for each party to work from so that everyone can accomplish their own goals. They should be used to reduce fears and not to instill fear.

The Private Land Guides are not the only way to manage the river and in some cases they may not be the best, but they are a place to start. Only through open communication, concern and respect for each other, and an understanding of each others needs and desires can they work.

1. Private Land Guides

The following guides were coordinated with the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area (NRA) and the Private Land Use Regulation (PLUR's) that the Forest Service is developing as required by the Act establishing the NRA. These private land guides apply to all private land within the Imnaha Wild and Scenic River corridor. For the management plan, these guides are referred to as "Private Land Guides" and are as follows:

Purpose and scope.

These guidelines establish the standards for use and development of privately owned lands within the Imnaha Wild and Scenic River corridor (hereafter the Imnaha River corridor). The standards are intended to achieve consistency with the following management objectives for the Imnaha River corridor:

- (a) The conservation and continuance of forest/grazing land for forest/grazing uses and farmland for farm uses, retaining the pastoral or natural setting upon which those uses take place.
- (b) Maintenance and protection of the free-flowing nature of the Imnaha River.
- (c) Conservation of scenic, wilderness, cultural, scientific, and other values contributing to the public benefit.
- (d) Preservation of all features believed to be biologically unique.
- (e) Protection and maintenance of fish and wildlife habitat.
- (f) Protection of archaeological and paleontologic sites.
- (g) Preservation of historic sites associated with and typifying the economic and social history of the region and the American West.

(h) Continuation of traditional and existing uses and developments in a manner compatible with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, these regulations, and any applicable Land and Resource Management Plan.

(i) Provision for outdoor recreation use in so far as it is compatible with traditional and existing uses, and can be accommodated within pastoral or natural settings.

Definitions.

For the purposes of this subpart, the following terms are defined:

"Act" refers to P.L. 90-542, the Act which established the Wild and Scenic Rivers System, signed into law October 2, 1968, 16 U.S.C. 1271 - 1287).

"Archaeological Sites" are those sites containing evidence of past cultures, such as relics and artifacts.

"Certificate of Compliance" is a form, permit, or letter from the Ranger stating that a landowner's preexisting, present or proposed use of private property conforms to applicable standards for the use and development of that property.

"Conditional Certificate of Compliance" is a form, permit, or letter from the Ranger stating that a preexisting or present (not proposed) use of a private property conforms to applicable standards for the use and development of that property, provided that certain specifically enumerated and unambiguous conditions are complied with in a given period of time, not to exceed 10 years.

"Conservation Easement" (Scenic Easement) is a legal agreement between the owner of private property within the Imnaha River corridor and the United States by which the owner conveys to the United States, for fair market value or some other agreed upon price, not to exceed fair market value, certain development and/or use rights to his or her property. Each easement is tailored to the affected private property and, to the extent practicable, is in the interest of the individual property owner. The term "Conservation Easement" includes reserved interest deeds by which the United States would acquire all rights, title, and interest in a property, except such right, title, and interest expressly reserved by the property owner. Conservation easements cannot be acquired, by condemnation, to prohibit the continuation of any farming or pastoral use exercised by a property owner as of December 31, 1975.

"Cultural Features" are human works of educational, inspirational, or aesthetic value.

"Enhancement" is vegetative management done to achieve those objectives listed under the "Purpose and Scope" section of these guides for purposes other than wood products production or domestic livestock grazing. Examples are creation of scenic vistas and wildlife habitat improvement.

"Farm Lands" are lands that are predominantly of a Class I-VI soil as identified in the soil capability system in the USDA Soil Conservation Service document, Soil Survey, Single Phase Interpretation Sheet, User's Guide, dated August 1986 and defined in the Oregon Land Conservation and Development Commission's Statewide Planning Goals and Guidelines, Goal 3, "To preserve and maintain agricultural lands." Goal 3 is interpreted in Chapter 660, Division 5 of Oregon Administrative Rules, Land Conservation and Development Commission, as amended.

"Farm Use" is any traditional agricultural use, horticultural use, animal husbandry, or any combination thereof. Farm use includes horse, cattle and sheep ranching, preparation and storage of the products raised on such land for on-farm use, and for disposal by marketing or otherwise, and includes truck farming.

"Forest/Grazing Lands" are lands suitable for grazing domestic livestock, wood product production, fish and wildlife habitat, production of water, recreation activities or other open space uses.

"Forest Supervisor" includes the Forest Supervisor of the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest whose mailing address is P. O. Box 907, Baker City, Oregon 97814, and for the Rapid River Wild River Corridor, the Forest Supervisor, Nez Perce National Forest, whose mailing address is Route 2, Box 475, Grangeville, Idaho 83450.

"Forest/Grazing Use" is the growing and harvesting of timber or other wood products, grazing livestock, maintaining watershed, fish and wildlife habitat and recreational activities.

"Free Flowing" as applied to any river or section of a river, means existing or flowing in a natural condition without impoundment, diversion, straightening, rip-rapping, or other modification of the waterway. The existence, however, of low dams, diversion works, and other minor structures at the time any river is proposed for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic River system shall not automatically bar its consideration for such inclusion, provided that this shall not be construed to authorize, intend, or encourage future construction of such structures within components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers system.

"Group Selection" is an uneven-aged cutting method in which small groups of trees, usually no more than two acres in size, are removed to meet a predetermined goal of size distribution and species in the remaining stand.

"Individual Tree Selection" is an uneven-aged cutting method in which selected trees from specified size or age classes are removed over the entire stand area to meet a predetermined goal of size or age distribution and species composition in the remaining stand.

"Intermediate Cutting" is a cutting which removes trees from a stand between the time of its formation and the regeneration cut.

"Mining Lands" are lands containing inorganic and organic substances that can be extracted from the earth and which possess economic value and utility aside from farm and forest uses.

"Nontraditional Uses" are those not present within the Imnaha River corridor prior to December 31, 1975.

"Parcel" as used in this subpart refers to contiguous tax lots under one ownership. Rights-of-way do not divide parcels into smaller units.

"Paleontologic Site" is a site containing fossilized remains of flora and fauna.

"Preexisting" uses are those uses of or developments to a private land parcel in existence prior to January 1, 1993, the effective date of these regulations.

"Present/new" uses are those uses of or development to a private land parcel initiated after January 1, 1993, the effective date of these regulations.

"Private Lands" are those lands not in Federal, State, or local government ownership.

"Ranger" is the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area Ranger, located in Enterprise, Oregon.

"Recreation Activities" are any public or private activities that involve the use of nature's amenities including, but not limited to, camping, picnicking, water based sports, winter sports, hunting, viewing scenery, hiking, fishing, and horseback riding.

"Recreational Facilities" include parks, campgrounds, hunting and/or fishing lodges, and/or visitor support services and facilities associated with recreational activities.

"Residential/Commercial Lands" are lands available for development and uses not considered traditional or usual within the Imnaha River corridor. Examples are the Imnaha River Woods Subdivision and the Imnaha Motel.

"Riparian Zone" identifies those vegetative communities immediately adjacent to and directly associated with natural water features; e.g., lakes, streams, and wetlands.

"Salvage Cutting" is a method of tree cutting designed to remove trees that are dead or in immediate danger of being killed by injurious agents. Salvage cutting may take place without acreage limitation, although effects on other resources must be considered.

"Sanitation" is the control of all the factors in the physical environment that exercise or can exercise a harmful effect on a person's physical development, health, or survival.

"Sanitation Cutting" is a cutting made to remove dead or damaged trees or those susceptible to the spread of pests or pathogens. The size of area and intensity of a sanitation cutting depends on the nature of the agent(s) involved and the risk of further infection of healthy trees.

"Scenic Easement" - see Conservation Easement.

"Screening" is the reduction or elimination of the visual impact of manmade objects as seen from any public travel route or any use area.

"Secretary" is the Secretary of Agriculture.

"Selection Cutting" is an uneven-aged cutting method which entails the annual or periodic removal of trees individually or in small groups.

"Solid Waste" is discarded solid materials resulting from industrial, commercial, agricultural and community activities. This term does not include domestic sewage or pollutants in water resources such as silt or dissolved materials in irrigation return flows.

"Subdivision" is a division of land into lots in the manner specified in the Wallowa County Comprehensive Plan and implementing ordinances, identified by a map, drawing or writing containing all the descriptions, locations, specifications, dedications for roads, utilities, etc. and properly filed with the appropriate County recorder.

"Timber Harvesting" is the cutting and removal of trees for timber or other wood products.

"Traditional" uses are ranching, grazing, farming, timber harvesting and the occupation of homes and lands associated therewith on or before December 31, 1975.

"Zoning" is the regulation of the uses of real property by a local unit of government.

"Zoning Permit" is the written authorization of a particular use or development of real property by a local unit of government.

Standards for land use and development.

(a) Land Categories: All privately owned land within the Imnaha River corridor is placed in one of three land categories as follows:

- (1) Farm/forest/grazing land.
- (2) Mining land.
- (3) Residential/commercial land.

(b) Land categories will be displayed on a map on file and available for public inspection at the office of the Ranger. Modifications to the maps and assigned categories may be made by the Ranger, but only after review of the proposed change for compliance with the "Purpose and Scope" of these guides, consultation with the County officials involved, allowing at least 30 days after posting public notice for review by affected land owners and other parties and documentation of the analysis done to support the decision. Decisions to modify assigned land categories are subject to appeal under "Appeal Procedures" identified in these guides.

(c) The Ranger is the official responsible for implementation of these standards, following appropriate consultation with County officials and other specialists deemed necessary, such as structural and landscape architects.

(d) The following standards are applicable to use and development of private lands within the Imnaha River corridor in all land categories:

- (1) Use and development of private land must comply with applicable local, State, and Federal laws, regulations, and ordinances, provided they do not conflict with applicable Federal laws including, but not limited to, the Act and the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area Act (16 U.S.C. 460g.)
- (2) Use and development of private land shall be compatible with the purposes set forth in the "Purpose and Scope" section of these guides.
- (3) The number and type of new buildings constructed must be consistent with the land category in which it is located and associated uses.
- (4) All new or replacement structures shall be located in such a manner as to serve the intended use while minimizing their visual impact as viewed from any public travel route, such as a County or National Forest system road, or public use area. This may be done by screening, selection of location, use of building materials, color, and/or theme consistent with the particular setting and other structures if part of an existing complex of structures. New or replacement structures must be architecturally compatible with their location and environment. They may be constructed of natural appearing materials, such as stone or wood, and colored to harmonize with the setting. Or structures may be thematic representing the architecture, materials, and colors of historic structures such as the Pre-World War II ranch structures of the locale. They shall minimally impact natural landforms by conforming structures to the topography and by reclaiming and restoring developed sites to their natural appearance, using plant species common to the locale and compatible with local

ecosystems. Landscaping and lawns within a specified cartilage around a residence is appropriate.

(5) No landfills or hazardous substance disposal sites shall be located within the Imnaha River corridor.

(6) All new electric transmission line systems, substations, commercial radio transmitters, relays and/or repeater stations, including antenna, and other electronic sites shall be located where they cannot be seen from or where they are screened from public travel routes and public use areas. All new utility lines shall, where ground conditions and topography permit, be placed underground. With the exception of replacement facilities associated with normal maintenance activities, all other facilities will be located in such a manner to minimize visual impacts as seen from public travel routes and public use areas where it is physically and economically feasible.

(7) Preexisting bridges, crossings (i.e., fords, watergaps) and other preexisting agricultural facilities, preexisting fisheries enhancement structures and their use will be allowed to continue. Any new structures, provided they don't interfere with the free flow of the water way, may be allowed. These structures must comply with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and regulations at 36 CFR 297 and shall not adversely affect fish and wildlife habitat of the Imnaha Rivers and tributaries thereto.

(8) There shall be no construction of additional buildings in Hells Canyon Wilderness.

(9) Public information and direction signs shall be simple and small yet legible. The colors and material used to construct such signs shall harmonize with the surrounding natural setting and with adjacent structures.

(10) Vegetative screening materials shall be non-noxious plant species common to that locale and compatible with local ecosystems.

(11) Private access roads shall be consistent with applicable State and local standards, be no wider than is reasonably necessary for safe passage by the type and volume of traffic which utilizes the road.

(12) Removal of native shrubs and trees within any riparian zone shall be limited to that reasonably necessary to maintain existing stream crossings by roads, trails, or watergaps or construction of new ones.

(13) Upon discovery of an historic, archaeological, or paleontologic site on private lands, the Ranger shall be notified and permitted a maximum of 90 days to investigate, inventory, and evaluate the site prior to any further alteration. The Ranger shall notify the Nez Perce and Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR) tribal archaeologists.

(14) No new buildings, including temporary structures to be in place more than 30 days, that are not part of a preexisting complex of buildings shall be constructed within a wild and scenic river corridor unless they can be screened from the river and road or trail corridors by existing topography and/or non-noxious plant species common to that locale and compatible with local ecosystems.

(15) Timber harvesting for utilization and disposal of forest products shall be by selection cutting methods. Permitted silvicultural treatments generally shall be limited to individual tree selection, group selection, sanitation, salvage, intermediate cuttings and/or enhancement.

(16) All development shall be designed to minimize impacts on the visual resource. The HCNRA Visual Resource Inventory and Imnaha Valley Study on file at the Ranger's office will be used as guidelines.

(17) Mining or extraction of common materials, such as gravel, on land categories other than mining shall be governed by standards (1), (2), and (3) identified in the "Standards for Land Use and Development" section, subpart (f) in addition to other standards applicable to the land category.

- (18) No valid water rights will be affected or altered by these regulations.
- (e) The following standards are applicable to farm/forest/grazing lands:
- (1) These lands may not be divided if it results in a parcel of less than 160 acres, except in those cases where the division was approved on or before January 1, 1993 or when the State or County allows a parcel of less than 160 acres that is part of an economical farm/forest/grazing unit and is unavailable for residence(s).
 - (2) The number of residential structures shall be restricted to that needed to conduct the farm/forest/grazing use.
 - (3) Other than replacement buildings for farm/forest/grazing use, new or replacement buildings must be greater than 25 feet from a property line and/or 55 feet from the center line of a public road or trail.
 - (4) New structures must be situated so as to minimize interference with or material detract from established farm, forest management or grazing practices and production.
 - (5) Recreational use of farm/forest/grazing lands may occur to the extent that they are compatible with the existing use of that land and the purpose statements in the "Purpose and Scope" section of these guides.
 - (6) Farm/forest/grazing lands may not be converted into a residential subdivision.
- (f) The following standards are applicable to mining lands:
- (1) Operations will be conducted in a manner that does not substantially impair or detract from the scenic, natural, historic, pastoral, and fish and wildlife values of the Imnaha River corridor.
 - (2) The private landowner will consult with the Ranger concerning proposed actions when submitting a plan of operations to the relevant State or Federal agencies. The Ranger shall determine in writing whether the proposed mining operation will adequately protect Imnaha River corridor values and notify the relevant State and Federal agencies of the determination. The operations described in the plan must:
 - (i) Comply with Federal and State mining, air quality, water quality, hazardous waste and water disposal standards.
 - (ii) Provide for prompt stabilization and reclamation of areas disturbed by the operations.
 - (3) Facilities not necessary for the use and development of the mineral resource shall not be constructed on these lands.
 - (4) Mining lands may not be divided.
 - (5) Upon completion of mineral extraction and land reclamation, the land category may be changed to Farm/Forest/Grazing upon the landowner's request.
 - (6) Other than replacement buildings for mining use, no new building shall be located closer than 25 feet from a property line or 55 feet from the center line of a public road or trail.
 - (7) These lands shall not be zoned or developed for residential subdivision.
- (g) The following standards are applicable to residential/commercial lands:
- (1) Nontraditional uses may be allowed on Residential/Commercial land.
 - (2) Recreational facilities shall generally conform to the approved guidelines for design and development theme in current use for Federally owned facilities within the Imnaha River corridor. New recreational facilities will be evaluated by the Ranger for consistency with the purpose statements in the "Purpose and Scope" section of these guides.

Certification of compliance.

- (a) A landowner may request a Certificate of Compliance for any preexisting, present or proposed use or development of land within the Imnaha River corridor. To obtain a Certificate of Compliance:
- (1) For preexisting and present uses or development, the landowner shall make a written application to the Ranger. The application must include photographs and other evidence that the use of the land and the structures thereon conform to the standards in this subpart.

- (2) For proposed uses or development, the landowner shall make a written application to the Ranger and provide a use or development plan that sets forth:
 - (i) How the property is to be developed.
 - (ii) A time frame for development.
 - (iii) How the property will be used.
- (b) Within 30 days of receipt of an application for a Certificate of Compliance, the Ranger shall review the application and take one of the following actions:
 - (1) Request additional information needed to make a decision, and/or notify the landowner of the need for additional review time, not to exceed 30 days, stating the reasons therefore.
 - (2) Issue a Certificate of Compliance if the preexisting, present, or proposed use or development conforms to the standards of this subpart.
 - (3) Issue a Conditional Certificate of Compliance, stating that a preexisting or present use or development conforms to the applicable standards for use and development, provided that certain specifically enumerated and unambiguous conditions are complied with in a given period of time, not to exceed 10 years.
 - (4) Decline to issue a Certificate of Compliance, stating the reasons and where applicable, notifying the owner of the changes which, if made, would result in an issuance of a Certificate of Compliance. A decision not to issue a Certificate of Compliance must include a notice of appeal rights identified in the "Appeal Procedures" section of these guides.
- (c) The Ranger shall notify the appropriate County government of actions taken on each application.
- (d) To the extent possible, the Ranger shall rely on County zoning ordinances to achieve compliance with the standards of these regulations. To facilitate this process, the affected County and Ranger may enter a joint management agreement. Reliance on County zoning ordinances can be maximized if:
 - (1) County ordinances applicable to private lands within the Imnaha River corridor achieve the same standards as those set forth in the "Standards for Land Use and Development" section of these guides.
 - (2) Counties do not permit variance from or exception to their zoning ordinances.
 - (3) Counties enforce zoning ordinances.
 - (4) Counties require private landowners to obtain the requisite local, State, and Federal permits before initiating development activities on their land.
 - (5) Counties amend their ordinances or joint management agreements as necessary to conform to any changes in the Act and/or to implement any changes in these regulations.
 - (6) Counties allow the Ranger to participate in proceedings before the County and the State which have an effect upon the use and development of private property in the Imnaha River corridor.
 - (7) The Ranger is given notice of any proposed zoning ordinance, or amendment thereto, that would affect private land in the Imnaha River corridor. Within 30 days of receipt of such notice (which shall include a copy of the proposed ordinance or amendment thereto), or at such other time as may be agreed by the County and the Ranger, the Ranger shall indicate whether the ordinance is consistent with the Act and the standards of this section based on the above requirements and notify the County of such action.
 - (8) Counties submit copies of all applications for zoning permits (including plans and other necessary information) to the Ranger. Within 30 days or at such other time as may be agreed by the County and the Ranger, the Ranger shall determine whether the application for each zoning permit conforms to the objectives of the Act and the standards in these regulations.

Effect of certification and noncertification.

- (a) Private property for which a Certificate of Compliance or a Conditional Certificate of Compliance is held by the owner shall not be acquired by the Secretary without consent of the owner

unless such land is needed in fee title for public access or recreation development outside of Wild and Scenic River boundaries.

(b) Conservation easements shall not be acquired by the Secretary without consent of the owner on private property for which the owner holds a certificate or conditional certificate of compliance.

(c) The Ranger shall revoke a Conditional Certificate of Compliance upon finding that changes necessary to achieve compliance were not accomplished within the specified time limit, use or development of the property no longer conforms to the standards of this subpart or that the property is in imminent danger of being used or developed in a manner inconsistent with the terms of certification or the standards of this subpart. The Ranger shall give written notice of revocation to the owner in person or by certified mail.

(d) The Ranger shall revoke a Certificate of Compliance upon finding that the use or development of the property no longer conforms to the terms of the certificate or the standards established in this subpart or that the property is in imminent danger of being used or developed in a manner inconsistent with the terms of certification or the standards of this subpart. The Ranger shall give written notice of revocation to the owner in person or by certified mail.

(e) When a determination has been made that the use or development of real property within the Imnaha River corridor does not conform or is in imminent danger of being used or developed in a manner that does not conform to the applicable standards of this subpart, the property is subject to acquisition in fee title or acquisition of scenic easement by the Secretary without consent of the owner, except that within the wild and scenic river corridors, the Secretary may acquire only scenic easements without consent of the owner. Scenic easements shall not preclude the continuation of any farming or pastoral use exercised by the owner as of December 31, 1975.

Appeal procedure.

(a) Decisions made by the Ranger under provisions "Standards for Land Use and Development" part (b), "Certificate of Compliance," and "Effects of Certification and Noncompliance," of these guides are subject to appeal to the Forest Supervisor upon written request to the Forest Supervisor. The request must be received within 30 days of the Ranger's decision. A statement of reasons in support of the request must be included.

(b) Any person or organization may submit written comments for the record. Comments shall include a responsive statement from the Ranger. Comments shall be accepted until the Forest Supervisor closes the record, 30 days after receipt of the appeal and statement of reasons.

(c) The Forest Supervisor shall respond in writing to a request for an oral presentation no later than 10 days after receiving the request. If the request is granted, the Forest Supervisor shall advise the parties of who will hear the presentation and of the place, time, and date. Participants may provide documentary material at the presentation and, within 10 days after the presentation, may also submit a brief summary of their remarks.

(d) The Forest Supervisor is authorized to grant written requests for extensions of time to allow submission of additional material for good cause shown.

(e) If the appeal record is considered inadequate to affirm or reverse the Ranger's decision, the Forest Supervisor may suspend the appeal process and request additional information, or remand the case to the Ranger with instructions for further action.

(f) An appeal decision shall be based on the record and shall be made within 30 days of the date that the record is closed. The appellant will be notified if more time is needed, not to exceed 30 days.

2. Imnaha River Woods

The Imnaha River Woods, a subdivision, exists within the river corridor. This subdivision has its own regulations, which are acceptable for wild and scenic river management, that govern certain activities within the subdivision. These regulations are referred to as the Imnaha River Woods Covenants.

3. **Water Quality/Fish Habitat.** For the purpose of establishing cooperative agreements between landowners and the Forest Service, concerning water quality and fish habitat, a management zone was identified. This is the zone in which any cooperative agreement, cost share projects, memorandum of understanding, or other cooperative ventures for the purpose of protecting or enhancing water quality on private land should be limited to. The distance of this management zone is 200 feet from the high water line of the Imnaha River or tributaries to the Imnaha River.

4. **Traditional Values. (Outstandingly Remarkable Value)**

- a. **Desired Future Condition:** Maintain the small ranch/farm setting that has existed over time. It should provide a representation of the early Euro-American (western) lifestyle that home-steaded this drainage. Modern technology will be evident but the overall appearance or feeling you get as you move through the area is one of an earlier existence.

Non-traditional uses of farms or ranches are discouraged.

- b. The Traditional Use/Lifestyle Adaptation OR value is different from the other OR values in that it is not a natural resource value but a recognition of a human lifestyle or a human resource. This lifestyle represents a part of our history. For this reason, the management of this OR value is different from the management of the other OR values.

The other OR values are managed by doing something directly to the resource or imposing restriction and regulations. The Traditional Use/Lifestyle Adaptation OR value cannot be manipulated in this manner, nor can it be regulated. The management of this OR value is to let it function in its own environment. Just as preservation is to let a resource function in its own environment including the forces of nature, the Traditional Use/Lifestyle Adaptation OR value should be left to function without government intervention and let the forces of the human world take its course.

The management of this OR value is the management of human interaction. The Forest Service needs to interact as part of the value, as neighbors, not as an administrative agency of the river. Conflicts will arise between this OR value and others just as conflicts will arise between other OR values. The difference is with the Traditional Use/Lifestyle Adaptation OR value the human interaction must come into play. The management must include an understanding of this lifestyle and deal with it on that level. It includes the old cliches "Where a man is only as good as his word," "A hand shake is all you need to close a deal," or "A days work for a days pay." This is how this OR value is to be managed.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION

A. Management Actions

The following are management actions identified during the environmental analysis.

1. District/HCNRA Responsibilities

District/HCNRA, in conjunction with other agencies, will oversee the management of the river, implementation of the management plan, and coordination with the private landowners.

District/HCNRA, in conjunction with other agencies, will be responsible for maintaining the monitoring file for the visual resource, identifying non-conforming impacts, and developing rehabilitation plans for each site.

District/HCNRA, in conjunction with other agencies, will be responsible for maintaining the monitoring file for the fisheries resource, identifying impacts, and developing rehabilitation plans for each site.

District/HCNRA, in conjunction with other agencies, will be responsible for maintaining the monitoring file for the wildlife resource, identifying impacts, and developing rehabilitation plans for each site.

District/HCNRA, in conjunction with other agencies, will be responsible for maintaining the monitoring file for the botanical resource, identifying impacts, and developing rehabilitation plans for each site.

Responsibility: District/Area Ranger, Time: The day of the published Decision Notice for all above items.

2. Motorized restriction on the Scenic segment of the river

Rescind the current CFR order allowing motorized use and issue a new CFR allowing only two wheeled motorized use. Responsibility: Area Ranger/ Forest Supervisor, Time Frame: Within in 30 days of published Decision Notice.

3. Education and monitoring program on Scenic segment of the river

Develop an education program that will emphasize the concerns between user groups on this trail. Monitor the results for one year. Responsibility: District Ranger, Time: FY 93.

4. Fisheries projects

The "Imnaha Stream Survey Report" February 1992, identified the Imnaha River to be in good to excellent condition. Because of this, the ID Team determined that the best action is to let the natural processes work. However, the report listed several management recommendations. These recommendations would improve fish habitat at specific location. Any of the recommendations that are consistent with the river management plan may be implemented after further analysis.

5. Historic/Prehistoric

Conduct a systematic inventory of the lower Imnaha River (from Cow Creek bridge to the Snake River). Responsibility: Area Ranger, Time: By FY 97.

B. Monitoring

1. Forest Level

Monitoring of this plan will be incorporated into Forest's monitoring process. The standard and guides will be incorporated into the Forest monitoring checklist.

2. District/HCNRA Level

The District/HCNRA, in conjunction with other agencies, will be responsible for evaluating each project within the river corridor or adjacent to the river corridor for compliance with the standards and guidelines.

The District/HCNRA is also responsible for an annual report concerning wild and scenic river as directed by the Forest monitoring plan. This report will include a discussion on the condition and changes if any for each of the OR values. The following are threshold limits for each OR value:

- a. Scenic: No additional adverse impacts. All activities meet Retention and Preservation.
- b. Recreation: An even mix of dispersed and developed camping is available. Each of the ROS classes for the river sections is maintained.
- c. Wildlife: No reduction of PETS species habitat or populations. No reduction of Bighorn Sheep or other big game species habitat related to management activities.
- d. Fisheries: No reduction of fish habitat or no reduction in PETS fish species related to management activities.
- e. Vegetation/Botanical: No reduction of PETS species habitat or populations. The diversity of ecosystems is maintained throughout the river corridor.
- f. Historic/Prehistoric: No damage to cultural sites.
- g. Traditional Values/Lifestyle Adaptation: No loss of traditional uses due to management activities. Traditional Uses may be lost at the option of the landowner. This monitoring item only deals with losses due to river management activities.

3. Water Quality Monitoring

Monitoring water quality is an important element in managing the National Wild and Scenic River system. Six monitoring points are recommended along the Imnaha River. Only through cooperative agreements, use of volunteers, and other creative means is this part of the monitoring program going to be accomplished. The following are the preferred location for the monitoring points and possible cooperative parties or organization:

1. Indian Crossing -- Snowmobile Club, Camp Host, or the Outfitter Guide.
2. Palette Ranch/Fish Trap -- Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Nez Perce Tribe, Palette Ranch, Snowmobile Club, or a resident of Imnaha River Woods.
3. Freezeout Creek/College Cr -- Imnaha Grange, Individual Ranchers, residents of College Creek, Nez Perce Tribe, or Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.
4. Town of Imnaha -- Residents of Imnaha, local business, School, Nez Perce Tribe, or Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.
5. Fence Creek -- Individual Residents or Ranchers, Nez Perce Tribe, or Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.
6. Cow Creek -- Individual Residents or Ranchers, Nez Perce Tribe, or Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.
7. Mouth of the Imnaha River (optional) -- Jet boaters, rafters, or guide services.

Monitoring would be of simple parameters that would give an indication of whether more intense monitoring is needed. This would include, but not limited to, temperature, dissolved oxygen, sediments, PH, and nitrates. There are simple kits that are capable of monitoring this information.

Area Ranger will be responsible for establishing this monitoring program. Although this monitoring is dependent on funding and assistance, a target time for having all monitoring stations in place is two years.